(d) if not, what Government propose to do to provide more such Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and Gujarat have large number of persons with mental disabilities.

(b) NIMH has three Regional Centres located at Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai, and two Model Special Education Centres at New Delhi and Secunderabad.

(c) and (d) Besides Model Special Education Centres of NIMH, about 1025 special schools are run by Non-Governmental Organisations.

Manual scavenging

2266. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry was directed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to prepare the status notes on its programmes regarding conversion of dry latrines and the liberation of manual scavengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the total number of manual scavengers as on 1st January, 2007; and

(d) by when the inhuman system of manual scavenging would be abolished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) In compliance of the directions of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a status note on Liberation and Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers was submitted by the Ministry in October, 2006.

(c) and (d) The continuance and construction of dry latrines and employment of manual scavengers is prohibited under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993. However, for rehabilitation of erstwhile manual scavengers and their dependents in alternative occupations, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched a new Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers. As per reports received from State Governments/UT Administrations, there were 3.42 lakh erstwhile manual scavengers and their dependents, to be rehabilitated, at the time of formulation of the scheme.

De-addiction centres

2267. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of de-addiction centres in the country, State-wise;

(b) the capacity to house drug addicts in those centres, centre-wise; and